



**CONGRESSMAN  
BEN CARDIN**  
WELCOME TO MARYLAND'S 3RD DISTRICT



**Congressman Ben Cardin - Maryland's Third District**

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Dear Friends,

The House recently passed an ethics reform bill that will do little to clean up the cozy relationship between Members of Congress, their staffs and lobbyists. In March, the Senate passed a much stronger bipartisan ethics reform bill that would significantly strengthen ethics requirements.

As a former member of the House Ethics Committee and Chair of the Maryland Special Study Commission on Maryland Public Ethics Law, I believe all Americans have a right to a government that works and that fairly represents them. Unfortunately, that's not happening in Washington today.

That's why I offered an amendment to the House ethics bill that would allow outside watchdog groups to file ethics complaints against Members of Congress. It's important that we encourage those with knowledge of wrongdoing by Members of Congress to come forward. Unfortunately, House leaders refused to let this amendment be considered.

The next step is for the ethics bill to go to a Senate-House conference committee where the differences between the two versions will be ironed out. Hopefully, the conference committee will take a much stronger stand and insist that the final bill include many of the stricter requirements contained in the Senate bill.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin  
Member of Congress



**CONGRESSMAN CARDIN TALKS ABOUT ETHICS AT JOHNS HOPKINS INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**

Rep. Cardin meets with students from the Johns Hopkins Institute of Policy Studies after his address about ethics reform on Capitol Hill. While the scandals on Capitol Hill have grabbed the headlines, the Congressman told the students Congress needs to tighten ethical standards and the American people must demand individual accountability from their Members of Congress.

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**Previous Survey Question Results**

**Do you support stronger enforcement of U.S. rights under trade agreements?**

Answer	Percent
Yes	90%
No	9%

**New Survey Question**

**Should outside watch dog groups be able to file an ethics complaint against a Member of Congress?**

Yes  
No

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